BENGALURU, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

# Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 20 | Humidity 68% Mostly Cloudy Sensex 82,352 | Nifty 25,198 | Gold 71,275 | Silver 81,378 | Dollar 83.98 | Euro 92.85 | GBP 110.24

PAGE 3

**FATAL FLAW**

Deadly accident once again sparks discussion on existing safety issues of the Yeshwanthpur flyover

PAGE 5

**FINE MONTH**

Traffic police initiative in August helps crack down on several violations, rake in record fines

### Fogging taken up often but what good can that do when mosquitoes continue to thrive in uncleared garbage, rotting lake areas or blocked drains?

# FOR FOG'S SAKE, JUST ADMIT IT: WE HAVE A STINGING PROBLEM

## Issues are different at various areas but they all point to civic failings

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents in several parts of Bengaluru are complaining about mosquito menace. They say while it is usual to have mosquito problems during this time of the year, fogging is proving ineffective in smoking out the midges.

"Usual mosquito foggers are regularly being used. However, there's no respite from mosquitoes. I live on the ground floor of our apartment complex and mosquitoes swarm our house night and day in case any window or door is left open. This despite regular fogging routine being followed," said V Selvarajan, a resident of Yelahanka.

People from these areas complain that they are facing the problem all throughout the year. From clearing out unattended garbage heaps to cracking on with pending lake revival projects and unblocking clogged drains, residents say additional measures are the need of the hour.

Residents in Hosakerehalli say the dilapidated condition of Hosakerehalli Lake has led to mosquito menace even during the day. While the solid waste management (SWM) department of Bruhat

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

KAUSHIK JN

**"There are drains in the area with no outlet and thus have stagnant water for months. Jakkur Main Road has a big black spot consisting of wet waste. Wet waste releases water and forms puddles around the garbage spot, providing an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes** — Geeta Jacob, Jakkur resident

# All lines in this route are... taken

## 497 mobile thefts recorded this year; police say public transport users during rush hour most vulnerable

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Raviteja had a penchant for mobile phones. According to the police, the notorious phone thief used to operate fearlessly, targeting bus passengers during peak hours in the cover of the crowd. Till the Parappana Agrahara police finally put an end to his free run. After his arrest, the police recovered 64 stolen mobile phones that are worth an estimated value of ₹10 lakh.

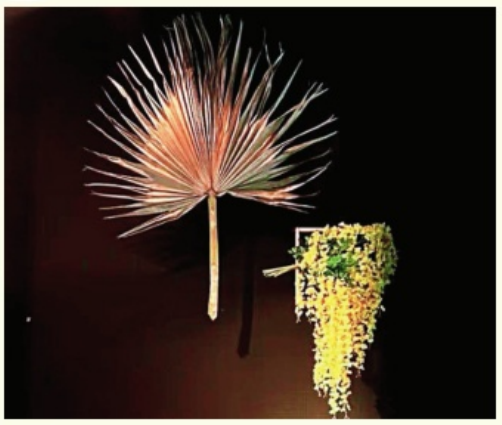
It was after a surge in mobile theft complaints that the police deployed officers on buses to keep an eye, leading to Raviteja's apprehension on August 26. His arrest not only led to the recovery of 64 mobile phones of various models but also revealed his tactics of moving between buses and hotels to avoid detection. Further investigation revealed that Raviteja might be part of a more extensive network of mobile thieves operating across Bengaluru.

According to the police, the operations were conducted in response to increasing incidents of mobile phone thefts reported in various parts of the city and Raviteja's arrest marks a crucial moment in the ongoing battle against theft-related crimes in the city.

As many as 497 mobile thefts were registered in 2024, excluding the ones that were received by the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) helpline

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

## 3 THINGS TO DO



### 01 What is identity?

Dive into a cluster of stories that revolve around very sensitive discrimination of identity by watching "Bob Marley from Kodihalli." The word "identity" is something that some take pride in, while for others it is an unbearable burden, a cycle of suffering and hardship that they must carry throughout their lives. Many times, in the name of 'survival' one continues to move forward by hiding their identity and believing it to be 'life' only to find themselves exhausted and regretful on paths that seem impassable. **Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; When: September 5, 7:30 pm**

### 02 Melodic tunes

Listen to some old favourites that include: Nothing compares to you, Valerie, Mamamia, Time after Time, Hallelujah, Moon River, Stupid Cupid, Dream, etc by the duo artists Harmony & Hope (Shenelle & Stefa) at Friday Night Unplugged @ Urban Solace. Shenelle is a melodic vocalist who found love in music as a child and later embraced it. Stefan is a talented guitarist who loves rock, pop, jazz, and blues and fuses perfectly with the serene voice of Shenelle.
**Where: Urban Solace, Ulsoor**
**When: September 6, 8 pm onwards**

### 03 Thought-provoking read

Tune into a conversation between Prayaag Akbar and Jeet Thayil as they discuss Prayaag's latest novel, 'Mother India.' Sparkling and unexpected, Prayaag Akbar's new novel brilliantly captures what it means to be young and alive in today's India. It is the story of two young people—Mayank and Nisha—living in contemporary Delhi.
**Where: Champaca Bookstore, Vasanth Nagar;**
**When: September 7, 5:30 pm**

# Height confusion: More clarity sought on Ganeshotsav rules

## Huge Ganesha idols are still at large in Bengaluru despite 2018 rule which banned manufacturing, installation of idols higher than 5 feet in size

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KAUSHIK JN

'Immersion of idols is a significant challenge in Bengaluru. Taller idols are heavier, leading to greater challenges in disposal'

As the Ganeshotsav is set to be celebrated across the city this weekend, the maximum height of the idols is being widely debated. As per the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) regulations, the maximum height for Ganesha idols should be five feet. However, the continued use of environmentally harmful Plaster of Paris (PoP) idols is a significant reason why these guidelines are not being followed effectively.

In 2018, a rule was established that idols taller than five feet should neither be manufactured nor installed. Despite this, these rules and orders have largely remained on paper, and large Ganesha idols are still being sold in the city, while authorities are turning a blind eye to it.

Sources said that it is possible to make eco-friendly clay Ganesha idols that are only four to five feet tall. Furthermore, by denying permission for idols taller than five feet, the production of PoP idols could be controlled.

### Lack of clear guidelines

The BBMP is granting permission for public Ganesha festivals, but there is no clear answer from the authorities regarding how many days the idols can be kept installed. Some officials suggest that permission may be granted for up to a month, but there has been no clear notification from BBMP or KSPCB on this matter, said sources.

One-stop centres have been set up in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) subdivision revenue offices to grant public permissions for the Ganesha festival. However, no clear guidelines have been issued by senior officials, BBMP, or KSPCB regarding the height of the idols. Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru Urban K Dayananda said, "This year, no specific orders have been issued regarding the height of idols during the Ganesha festival. A committee comprising officials from the BBMP, police, KSPCB, and other departments has been formed to decide on how long the Ganesha idols can remain installed."

### Idol immersion

According to sources, immersion of idols is a significant challenge in Bengaluru. BBMP has made arrangements for idol immersion in Kalyanis (temple tanks) and tankers. Personnel are deployed in each ward to facilitate the immersion process and manage the resulting waste. Creating a five-foot-tall clay idol requires 70 to 80 kg of clay, and for idols taller than five feet, more than 100 kg of clay is needed. Immersing such large idols is not easy, and it creates challenges in waste management.

### BESCOM guidelines

Meanwhile, BESCOM has instructed Ganesh Chaturthi festival organisers to contact their local sub-divisional officers to obtain temporary electricity connections for the event. According to their guidelines, sub-divisional authorities are directed to provide immediate connections in accordance with established norms, ensuring close coordination with local officials.

BESCOM Managing Director Mahantesh Bilagi stated that the department will assist with the lighting system for the festival, but it is essential that safety measures are strictly followed during both the installation and dismantling of the idol at public events to prevent any electrical accidents. "Organisers should be cautious with electrical wires, ensuring that serial light wiring is properly insulated. It is important to avoid contact with electric poles, wires or transformer stations when installing lights and attaching shamiyanas, tents, or other items. Additionally, overhead power lines must be avoided during the Ganesh procession. If any adjustments to power lines are needed, organisers should notify the subdivisional officers in advance for assistance."

Any incidents involving live wires or electrical sparks should be reported immediately via the 1912 helpline, and 'Danger Zones' should be clearly marked where electrical equipment is set up. For obtaining a temporary power connection for a pandal, organisers must first acquire a No Objection Certificate from all relevant authorities.

Once the NOC is secured, an inspection will be conducted by the officers at the installation site and then permission will be granted to proceed with the event. "Organisers must also obtain a wiring completion report from a registered electrical contractor, confirming the safety of the wiring, installation of the miniature circuit breaker (MCB), and earthing inspection and approval (EIA). After the festival, the meter must be duly returned," Bilagi added.

# HC emphasises need for swift conclusion of Wildlife Protection Act cases

The Karnataka High Court has emphasised the need for expeditious trials in cases under the Wildlife Protection Act, expressing concern over lengthy delays in bringing offenders to justice. A single judge bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna made this observation while rejecting a petition by Abdul Rehman and others, who faced charges for killing a spotted deer in the Bandipur forest in 2008.

Despite 16 years having passed, the trial against the accused is still ongoing. The court criticised the prolonged proceedings, stating, "Why such a long time? Why do you take 16 years to conclude a forest offence? This is not correct if you book under the Forest Act for killing a deer in 2008 and it is still being tried in 2024. What is this?"

The bench attributed the delay to the accused evading court appearances, leading to repeated adjournments. Rehman and his co-accused had sought quashing of the proceedings, arguing that they faced "double jeopardy," as a separate case related to the illegal possession of meat and unlicensed arms was filed against them in Kerala.

The court dismissed this argument, noting that the deer was killed in Karnataka, where the Wildlife Protection Act applies. The case in Kerala, involving the seizure of 35 kg of deer meat and weapons, falls under the Arms Act. The bench refused to grant any relief to the petitioners, citing their repeated attempts to evade trial, and ordered the lower court to conclude the case within 12 weeks. **— PTI**

# DANGEROUS CURVES AHEAD

## With sharp turns, poor visibility, inadequate markings & guard rails, safety concerns are back in spotlight at Yeshwanthpur Flyover; experts call for enhanced measures

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The recen car-bike crash at Yeshwanthpur Flyover that claimed the life of a techie bound for the US has re-ignited discussions about the flyover's safety, underscoring a long-standing issue with the flyover that has been notorious for accidents but remains unresolved—its sharp curvature. As vehicles navigate the flyover from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) side, the sharp leftward bend poses a significant risk, leading many motorists to lose control. This design flaw makes it one of the city's most hazardous flyovers.

The sharp curvature at Yeshwantpur Flyover (file photo)

Historically, the road from IISc used to connect directly to Tumakuru Road. However, with the development of Yeshwanthpur Railway Station, the road was redirected to accommodate the station's traffic, leading to increased congestion. To address this, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) constructed two flyovers: one curved flyover along Yeshwanthpur-Tumakuru Road and another for BMTC buses. Despite these efforts, the curved flyover has become a hotspot for accidents, compounded by the challenging nighttime conditions.

A police official said "The flyover's sharp turn causes vehicles to lose control, especially at high speeds. They are planning to visit the site with engineers to devise a solution. Previous measures, such as speed bumps and warning signs, have proven inadequate. On October 22, 2018, a container truck overturned on the flyover, narrowly missing an SUV, highlighting the ongoing risks." Meanwhile, BBMP officials acknowledge that the flyover was intended to alleviate traffic congestion but admit that its design, with a 90-degree turn, presents challenges.

### Sharp curve & poor visibility

Experts said that the flyover suffers from poor visibility, making it difficult for drivers to navigate, especially at night. Improved road markings and guard rails are necessary to enhance safety. A comprehensive road safety audit by a certified auditor is crucial to address these issues effectively and prevent further accidents. Advik Ananth, an expert, said that several key improvements are essential to ensuring the safety of vehicle users on the Yeshwanthpur flyover. "Addressing the sharp curvature and enhancing visibility on the flyover is crucial. Installing better lighting and reflective road markings can help drivers better gauge the flyover's alignment, especially at night. High-visibility signage indicating the sharp turn should be placed well in advance to alert drivers."

### Need for robust guard rails

Speaking on the importance of adding robust safety barriers, Ananth said that guard rails along the flyover can prevent vehicles from veering off the edge if they lose control. These barriers should be designed to withstand high-impact collisions and prevent vehicles from falling. "Moreover, a road safety audit conducted by a certified expert can identify other potential hazards and recommend further improvements. This audit should assess factors such as road surface quality, signage, and traffic management strategies. Lastly, ensuring that speed breakers are effective and that enforcement mechanisms are in place can help mitigate speeding and enhance overall safety," he added.

## Driver dies after tree falls on auto

In a tragic incident in Jayanagar, an auto driver lost his life after a tree collapsed onto his parked auto rickshaw on Wednesday. The severely wounded victim, Mohammed Khaleel, a resident of Padarayanapura, succumbed to his injuries while being treated at NIMHANS hospital. According to the police, Khaleel's son has registered a case at the Jayanagar police station. Authorities are investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident. **-BMB**

## HC plea seeks road fix

A group of social activists and advocates submitted a petition to the Advocate General of the High Court on Wednesday, urging intervention to repair a deteriorating road between the HC and the Press Club. T Narasimhamurthy, who spearheaded the effort, first approached the BBMP, but officials claimed the road was outside their jurisdiction and directed him to the PWD, who redirected him to the horticulture department, which in turn sent him back to the BBMP, resulting in a frustrating cycle of buck-passing. Left with no other option, they staged a protest and submitted a petition to the Advocate General, seeking directives to resolve the issue. **-BMB**

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# Broken benches, dead lights at parlous park

## Residents of RT Nagar 1st Block are calling for immediate repairs to their green space due to crumbling infrastructure and hazardous conditions

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Residents of RT Nagar 1st Block have been tirelessly appealing to the authorities to take action for the development of Rabindranath Tagore Park, located behind Adarsha School. They urge the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's Forest and Horticulture Departments to ensure the park is well-maintained and clean. The residents complain that the park's condition has deteriorated steadily over the past four years. They mention that, despite repeated assurances from the authorities to address the issue, no action has been taken.

"With the corporator's term ending four years ago, there has been no one to address the issue. We are not able to walk in the park due to the poor condition of the walking path. Most of the concrete benches are broken and the remaining benches are in poor condition thus causing a lot of inconvenience to the people who visit the park. I urge the BBMP authorities to fix this problem as early as possible," said Rama Prasanna, a resident.

S Bhanu Prakash, president of the RT Nagar 1st Block Residents Welfare Association, expressed his frustration over repeatedly complaining to the former corporator and MLA about the poor condition of the park, only to see no action taken to resolve the issues. "The pavers on the walking path are either damaged or missing thus making it difficult for senior citizens to walk for a while in the park. Some of the concrete benches were damaged when a tree fell on them during the monsoon but the authorities have not replaced the broken concrete benches with new ones. The other problem is the defunct lights at the park. It will be a great help if the authorities fix these issues without any delay," said Bhanu Prakash.

(1)Condition of a bench at Rabindranath Tagore Park; (2) Broken concrete bench; (3) Weak base of an electrical pole

A resident, speaking on condition of anonymity, stated that the BBMP authorities and elected representatives have neglected Rabindranath Tagore Park. "The BBMP Forest Department has not taken measures to remove the tree that fell during the heavy rain. We are complaining to the authorities and elected representatives but they did nothing except give false assurances. The lights are not functioning thus making it tough for us to visit the park in the evening for a walk. One of the electrical poles poses a danger to the visitors. It may fall at any time. I urge the authorities to remove the electrical pole or strengthen its base before any mishap takes place at the park," the resident said.

> **"The lights are not functioning thus making it tough for us to visit the park in the evening for a walk. The electrical pole poses a danger** – Resident

When notified, Pasha of Mehaboob Shah Electricals, the contractor responsible for maintaining the park's lights, promised to send an electrician on Thursday to replace the fused bulbs and inspect the electrical cables. BBMP Range Forest Officer Nagendra stated that he would dispatch a contractor to clear the remnants of the fallen tree inside the park

# Transport department to 'strictly enforce' one city one rate

After several days of demands by the taxi commuters and private vehicle owners association for a "One City-One Rate" policy, the Transport Department has finally issued an order to implement uniform taxi fares across not just Bengaluru but all cities in the state.

Sources said that app-based taxi service providers were arbitrarily setting travel fares, which was causing inconvenience to passengers. While auto-rickshaws and other private taxis were charging regulated fares, app-based taxis were demanding exorbitant rates. As a result, there was a push to standardise travel fares across major cities in the state, including Bengaluru. On February 3, an order was issued to set a uniform rate under the "One City-One Rate" policy, but it hadn't been implemented. The Transport Department has now ordered strict enforcement of this previously established policy. The directive has been issued to all Deputy Transport Commissioners and Regional Commissioners in the state, instructing them to periodically review and ensure that uniform rates are being charged.

The new regulations include several important provisions for passengers. First, there is a free service for luggage weighing up to 120 kg. However, for luggage that exceeds 120 kg, there is a fee of ₹7 for every additional 30 kg. Additionally, there is a surcharge for travel during late hours; passengers travelling between 12 AM and 6 AM will incur an extra 10% on their travel fares. These rules are designed to provide clarity and fairness in service while accommodating the needs of passengers during various times and with different luggage requirements.

The new fare structure for different vehicle models based on their value has been implemented. "For vehicles valued at less than ₹10 lakh, the fixed fare for the first 4 kilometres is set at ₹100, with an additional charge of ₹24 per kilometre thereafter. Vehicles with a value between ₹10 lakh and ₹15 lakh will have a fixed fare of ₹115 for the first 4 kilometres and a per kilometre charge of ₹28.20. For vehicles valued above ₹15 lakh, the fare is ₹130 for the first 4 kilometres, with a per kilometre rate of ₹32.50. This tiered pricing structure aims to standardise fares across different vehicle categories, ensuring fairness and transparency for passengers", said an official.

Shyam Gowda, a commuter said, "I believe the new rules are a step in the right direction. These regulations strike a good balance between providing essential services and managing operational costs. The authorities are considering the practical needs of passengers while ensuring that costs are kept reasonable. I hope they monitor how these changes affect and make adjustments if needed." — BMB

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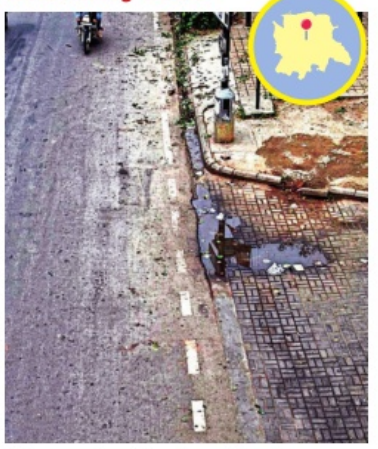
### Mosquito risk
**Residency Road**



Stagnant water from food vendors cleaning utensils has pooled outside the Cotton Complex on Residency Road, Ward 111, creating mosquito breeding sites.

### Water overflow
**Vidhana Soudha Circle**

Contaminated water is overflowing near the Vidhana Soudha Circle, highlighting a lack of maintenance.

### Mind the gap
**Vishwanatha Naganahalli**

At 4th Cross, Patel Muniyappa Layout, Vishwanatha Naganahalli, drain desilting is finished, but the removed slabs remain unreplaced, causing major inconvenience to residents.

# August was month of record traffic fines

## ₹1,39,81,700 collected for various offences; violation of one-way rules tops charts

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The traffic police launched a special drive aimed at curbing traffic violations that plague the city's roads, which resulted in collecting ₹1,39,81,700. A total of 27,693 cases were booked, of which offences against one-way rules ruled the roost with a jaw-dropping 9,177 cases. This offence alone accounted for ₹46.17 lakh in fines..

The violation of driving with defective or improper registration plates, with 5,324 cases and ₹26.97 lakh was collected in fines.

No entry violations were another major contributor to the city's traffic woes, with 7,884 cases. These violations, where drivers enter zones that are restricted or temporarily closed to traffic, not only disrupt the flow of vehicles but also pose a significant risk to pedestrians and other motorists. The fine collection for this category reached ₹39.75 lakh.

File photo of traffic police checking two-wheeler riders

Ilegal parking on footpaths saw 1,264 cases booked during the special drive. The fines collected from these offenders totaled ₹6.35 lakh. This issue is compounded by another related offence - riding on footpaths. The drive recorded 1,083 such cases, resulting in fines amounting to ₹5.43 lakh.

### Cut the call

Using mobile phones while driving is dangerous, leading to distractions and accidents. This significant violation was still prevalent, with 931 cases booked. The fines collected from these cases were ₹15.14 lakh.

### Tipsy drive

While many of the violations listed are due to negligence or impatience, one stands out as particularly egregious drunk driving. During the August drive, 2,030 cases of drunk driving were booked. While the number might seem lower compared to other offences, the impact of drunk driving is often devastating. However, it's noteworthy that unlike the other violations, fines are not the primary deterrent here. Instead, offenders face stricter penalties, including licence suspension, court appearances, and in severe cases, imprisonment. During this drive, only from August 23 to 31, police booked 1,707 cases.

### Expressway

The Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway has seen a dramatic enforcement of speed limits, with more than 400 speeding cases reported in August. This month has also witnessed 1 lakh cases on which fines have also been imposed. The rule, employing advanced speed calculation between cameras, has led to more than 3,412 incidents for speeds exceeding 130 kmph. The highway's 100 kmph limit, with a 5% tolerance, has been strictly monitored, with 89,200 cases registered up to August 26.

"This enforcement has been crucial in maintaining traffic discipline. The more we enforce these rules, the more we ensure discipline, which will ultimately reduce violations," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (South Traffic), Shiva Prakash Devaraju.

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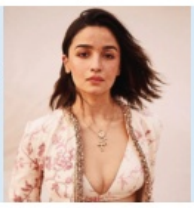

**TRULY FASHIONABLE:** Alia explains how her sense of fashion has evolved

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The end-product of education should be a free creative man, who can battle against historical circumstances and adversities of nature

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
(5 September 1888 – 17 April 1975)

**Khaja Bandanawaz University: Pioneering Educational Excellence and Technological Innovation**
At Khaja Bandanawaz University (KBNU), every Teachers' Day is a celebration of educational innovation and the relentless pursuit of knowledge. This special day serves not only as a tribute to our esteemed faculty but also as an affirmation of KBNU's commitment to being at the forefront of educational and technological advancements.

**Fostering a Tech-Driven Educational Environment**
In the realm of technology and AI, KBNU stands as a pioneer, integrating AI-driven methodologies into its curriculum to enhance learning outcomes and operational efficiencies. The university has implemented AI to personalize education, automate administrative tasks, and conduct groundbreaking research that intersects with real-world applications, thereby preparing students to be leaders in the tech-driven world.

**A Commitment to Lifelong Learning and Innovation**
As KBNU celebrates Teachers' Day, we reflect on our journey and look forward to the possibilities that lie ahead. The university remains dedicated to its role as an educator and innovator, ensuring that the flame of knowledge continues to inspire not just its students, but also contributes to the global community. Here at KBNU, we believe that education is the cornerstone of personal and societal development, and we are committed to advancing this belief with every resource at our disposal. In essence, KBNU is more than just a university; it is a vibrant ecosystem of learning and innovation, continually striving to contribute to the betterment of society through education, research, and holistic development.

**A Legacy Rooted in Visionary Leadership**
Founded on the visionary ideals of Late Padmashree Hazrat Syed Shah Muhammad Al Hussaini, and nurtured under the dynamic leadership of Chancellor Dr. Syed Shah Khusro Hussaini, Pro Chancellor Mr. Syed Muhammad Ali Al Hussaini, and Vice Chancellor Prof. Ali Raza Moosvi, KBNU has evolved into a beacon of academic and research excellence. The university's leadership continues to drive its mission of educating humanity with a progressive outlook, adapting to the ever-changing global educational landscape.

**Holistic Development Through State-of-the-Art Amenities**
Beyond academics, KBNU emphasizes holistic development, sporting state-of-the-art sports complexes and cultural centers that promote physical well-being and creative expression. The KBN House of Sports, for instance, is a testament to the university's commitment to fostering sportsmanship and athletic excellence, equipped with facilities for various sports and activities that ensure comprehensive development of students.

**Innovative Academic Framework and Cutting-Edge Facilities**
KBNU boasts a robust academic structure across diverse disciplines including Medicine, Engineering, Arts, and Sciences, enriched by state-of-the-art facilities. Recent infrastructural enhancements include modern laboratories equipped with the latest technology, smart classrooms that facilitate interactive learning, and advanced research centers fostering innovation in fields like artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, and biotechnology.

**Vision for the Future: Sustainable and Inclusive Growth**
Looking to the future, KBNU is committed to expanding its horizons through sustainable practices and inclusive education. Plans are underway to enhance green energy usage across campus and to introduce more inclusive programs that cater to a diverse student body. The university is also focusing on expanding its global partnerships to provide students with international exposure and collaborative research opportunities.

Dr. Syed Shah Khusro Hussaini
Hon'ble Chancellor,
Khaja Bandanawaz University

Syed Muhammad Ali Al Hussaini
Hon'ble Pro Chancellor, Khaja Bandanawaz University.

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# K'taka marks big wins in health and water quality

## Karnataka ranks 5th in NITI Aayog Index with score of 75, showing progress in sanitation; persistent challenges remain in gender equality and hunger

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The report highlights Karnataka's notable progress in good health and well-being

Karnataka has achieved 5th place in NITI Aayog's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) India Index for the current year. The state's overall SDG score for 2023-24 is 75, up from 72 in 2020-21, 66 in 2019-20, and 64 in 2018.

According to the report, Karnataka has shown notable progress in Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and Goal 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). However, improvements are needed in achieving gender equality and addressing hunger.

As per the report, the state has done exceptionally well under the clean water and sanitation category. While every district was verified to be open defecation-free, 97.9% of the schools were found with functional girls' toilets. It also underlines that more than 75% of rural households in the state are getting safe and adequate drinking water within premises through Piped Water Supply.

Karnataka has excelled in the sustainable cities and communities category as well. The report highlights that just 1% of urban households in the state live in temporary structures, while 97.22% of wards benefit from door-to-door waste collection and 85.64% have source segregation facilities. Additionally, deaths from road accidents in urban areas are relatively low compared to other states.

**Karnataka excels in sustainable cities and communities, with just 1% of urban household living in temporary structures. Additionally, 97.22% of wards have door-to-door waste collection**

Karnataka's Maternal Mortality Ratio stands at 97 per 100,000 live births, surpassing the national target of 70 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births set for 2030.

However, the index highlights that gender equality and hunger are areas requiring improvement.

Karnataka continues to have a low female-to-male labour force participation ratio of 0.53. Additionally, 44.4% of ever-married women aged 18-49 experience spousal violence. Women's involvement in household decision-making is also concerning. Although 88.7% of married women aged 15-49 participate in decisions regarding healthcare, major household purchases, and visits to family or relatives, Karnataka has the lowest percentage of women involved in these decisions, at 82.7%.

The report also highlights that a high percentage of children under five years of age in Karnataka are underweight and stunted. To add to that, over 45% of pregnant women aged 15–49 years are anaemic.

The index is calculated by the public policy think tank based on the progress of the state on 17 sustainable development goals listed by the United Nations, evaluating key performance indicators.

# 'Set up online drug testing system'

The Karnataka High Court has directed the Drugs Controller General (India) to establish an efficient online system for testing and analysing drug samples. Under this new system, drug samples must be examined by government analysts within 60 days, and the resulting reports should be available online in real-time.

To maintain transparency, Justice N S Sanjay Gowda, who issued the directions while quashing the prosecution against M/s Zim Laboratories Ltd and its Chairman, Managing Director, and others under Section 27D of the Act, suggested that the entire process be web-hosted. This approach would allow all relevant parties to be informed about the testing process and its results.

The court further instructed Drug Inspectors to obtain information about the person from whom the drug was acquired (as per Section 18A of the Act) and the place of manufacture (as per Section 24 of the Act) at the same time they sent the drug sample for testing to the government analyst. Upon receiving the report, the inspectors are directed to immediately forward it to the drug manufacturer whose details are provided under Section 18A of the Act.

The court highlighted the need for timely drug testing, stressing that delays of several months or over a year in analysis and reporting by a Government Analyst pose a significant risk of the drug remaining on the market, potentially harming the public. The court also noted that action against the manufacturer cannot proceed until the Inspector receives the report from the Government Analyst and shares it with the manufacturer.

The court found that the prosecution against the petitioners was unsustainable. The complaint did not contain specific averments against the Company, its Chairman, Managing Director, and Executive Director. Moreover, the tests were conducted after the shelf-life of the sample drugs had expired, depriving the manufacturer of the valuable right to dispute the veracity of the Government Analyst's test report.

The court also noted that the complaint against the Chairman, Managing Director, and Executive Director should have categorically stated how they were responsible for the conduct of the Company's business. As they were not directly responsible for manufacturing the drug, it cannot be presumed that they were solely responsible for the production of the subject drug based on their positions.

In light of these findings, the court allowed the petitions and quashed the proceedings against the petitioners.

# CREDAI B'luru pushes for major real estate reforms

## Changes are urged to simplify development procedures, enhance market expansion,with focus on regulatory clarity and faster approvals

Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Confederation of Real Estate Developers Association of India (CREDAI) Bengaluru has presented a memorandum to the government to implement several reforms that would help streamline the real estate development process in the Bengaluru region. These amendments aim to address the challenges faced by developers and improve the overall efficiency and sustainability of the real estate sector.

The key areas of focus include providing clarity on the transferable development rights (TDR) issue that has been long pending and simplifying the regulations. The CREDAI Bengaluru opines that it is a very cumbersome and tedious process. It said that by simplifying this and ensuring that the development rights certificate (DRC) is undertaken at the prevailing guidance value, it would bring in confidence, as the planning authorities can acquire land for infrastructural projects and the landowner giving up the land will not be disadvantaged when the TDR certificate is issued.

CREDAI Bengaluru President Amar Mysore recently expressed optimism about the growth of Bengaluru's real estate market during a media interaction. He mentioned that CREDAI Bengaluru is collaborating closely with the state government to tackle various challenges in the sector and create a more favourable environment for real estate development.

CREDAI B'luru is working with state govt to address challenges

He said that streamlining plan approvals is another priority, with measures such as implementing a single window system for obtaining No Objection Certificates (NOCs), reducing approval fees that are currently linked to guideline value, and standardising zoning regulations across the various planning authorities to bring in synergy and ease of doing business. "To improve efficiency, CREDAI Bengaluru proposed eliminating unnecessary procedures like commencement certificates, standardising buffer zones, especially for a city that has moved away from an agrarian economy to a tech capital and incorporating new uniform zonal regulations for the entire Bengaluru Metropolitan Region," he said.

CREDAI Bengaluru has recommended reducing stamp duty rates for Joint Development Agreements and Mortgage of Title Deeds, which were recently increased on an ad valorem basis without a cap. They also suggested introducing a staggered payment scheme for remitting labour cess, considering that construction occurs over an extended period.

"The government can foster a more conducive environment for sustainable and efficient real estate development in Bengaluru by addressing these issues. This will not only benefit developers but also contribute to the overall growth and development of the city," he said.

He said that residential project launches and sales in city are expected to increase by 10-15% in 2024 compared to the previous year and the market is poised for expansion across various micro-markets. "Emerging micro markets like Bagaluru and Varthur/Gunjur have witnessed substantial price appreciation and increased new supply with Bagaluru experiencing a nearly 70 per cent surge in residential property prices over the past five years with the bulk of the new supply priced between Rs 40 lakh and Rs 1.5 crore. Sarjapur, another emerging micro market, has also seen about a 50 per cent price jump in recent years," he said.

# Air Force officials 'capture & cage' strays, say it is for ABC

## BBMP officials visit IAF training unit campus after alarm on social media; explain to residents dogs can be picked up only with its nod

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

After receiving an anonymous complaint about animal cruelty inside the Headquarters Training Command (Unit) Indian Air Force campus near Mehkri Circle, the Animal Husbandry Department of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) inspected the campus on Wednesday and found street dogs captured and caged by the residents.

Animal welfare workers in the city raised an alarm after a social media user posted about the illegal capture of the dogs by Air Force officials on the campus using the pretext of the recent attack by street dogs at Jalahalli Air Force Station leading to the death of a 76-year-old woman.

"The street dogs inside the campus are caged by Air Force authorities and residents have been threatened to not feed them or be ready to face consequences. The dogs have been living inside the campus for years and authorities have gone ahead and caged them..." said the post on social media on Tuesday.

According to BBMP officials, five dogs were captured and kept inside an enclosed space. While Air Force authorities claimed that they captured the dogs to facilitate ABC/ARV, no permission was sought from BBMP.

"When officials arrived at the campus to rescue the animals, authorities informed that the dogs were captured to facilitate BBMP in conducting ABC/ARV. However, since BBMP had not granted any permission, officials have informed Air Force authorities that forceful caging of street dogs without consulting BBMP is not allowed. They have agreed to not do so in the future," said Suralkar Vikas Kishore, Special Commissioner (Health), BBMP.

Officials also told BM that over 70 dogs from the Air Force campus in Jalahalli have been captured and residents and authorities have been informed about rules around stray dog welfare and management.

Animal welfare workers say capturing of dogs for ABC and ARV is BBMP's responsibility. "The Air Force authorities should have contacted BBMP if they wanted the dogs to be vaccinated and sterilised. As per rules, street dogs can be picked up only in consultation or association with BBMP. We have requested BBMP to get the Air Force campus to give in writing that they would not relocate the dogs," said Harini Raghavan, Citizens for Animal Birth Control

"Removing the dogs is not a long-term solution. Where there is habitation, there will be food waste, and it will attract dogs. It is our responsibility to neuter them to control the numbers," said Nandita Subba Rao, an animal welfare worker.

File photo of BBMP workers capturing dogs for ABC programme; activists insist that the civic agency is responsible for sterilisation of strays

> **As per rules, street dogs can be picked up only in consultation or association with BBMP** –Animal welfare activist

### IAF unit issues clarification

The commanding officer of the Unit issued a letter after the dogs were rescued by BBMP.

"It is intimated that a dog shelter was created inside the campus and five dogs are captured and presently kept in the shelter. The dogs will be handed over to BBMP officials for administering the ABC program. Once the ABC program is completed, the dogs will be set free in the same location. The dogs are also provided with food and water during the period till the ABC program is administered by BBMP. It is further intimated that the dogs will not be relocated," said the letter.

## Fan murder: Charge sheet details saga of brutality

The Bengaluru Police on Wednesday filed a comprehensive chargesheet against 17 individuals, including actor Darshan Thoogudeepa, in connection with the Renukaswamy murder case. According to Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda, the chargesheet is "watertight" and was meticulously prepared after a thorough investigation of all aspects of the case. It includes 231 witness statements, along with technical and electronic evidence, and spans 3,991 pages across seven volumes and ten files. The chargesheet was submitted to the 24th Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court. The case involved evidence collection, including statements from three direct eyewitnesses and 27 other witnesses who testified in court.

According to the chargesheet, Renukaswamy harboured resentment toward Pavithra Gowda, believing she was responsible for disrupting Darshan's family life. He allegedly sent obscene messages and images to Gowda, prompting her to seek help from Darshan's close associate, Pavan, who, under Darshan's orders, began tracking Renukaswamy and eventually orchestrated his kidnapping with the assistance of Raghavendra, President of the Darshan Fan Club Association of Chitradurga. The charge sheet also details the hours of brutal assault on Renukaswamy.

### Cover-up attempt

After Renukaswamy succumbed to his injuries, the group allegedly planned to dispose of his body and have others surrender to the police, falsely claiming that the murder was over a financial dispute.

### Social media evidence

Investigators obtained crucial evidence from Instagram to support the case. Although Renukaswamy's phone was disposed of by the accused, the police retrieved a duplicate SIM card and reactivated his social media accounts to gather further evidence. The chargesheet also highlights the role of Pavithra Gowda, who allegedly instigated the crime and participated in the assault. According to the police, Gowda told the bleeding and severely injured Renukaswamy that he did not deserve to live. The investigation concluded that Pavithra played a significant role in the conspiracy and execution of the crime.

The post-mortem report confirmed that Renukaswamy died from shock and haemorrhage caused by multiple blunt injuries. The investigation is ongoing. —BMB

## Stuck in traffic, quite literally

### Cars get trapped in wet concrete at ORR service road, triggering massive morning jam

The morning rush hour in Bengaluru is anyway a test of patience, but for residents near Hebbal on a seemingly ordinary Wednesday, it turned into a breach of all thresholds. It began when two cars got stuck on freshly-poured concrete on a service road, which led to a huge traffic block near Kempapura.

By 8.45 am, the usually bustling Outer Ring Road near Kempapura was in a state of near-paralysis. " There was a complete mess of traffic in the Hebbal Area," said one frustrated commuter Sumit. " My daughter's school bus took 75 minutes to cover just one km on ORR."

The source of the gridlock was the closure of the service road where the car was stuck. Vehicles were forced to merge onto the already congested main road, creating a bottleneck that extended all the way to the airport road.

A traffic police official stated, " We've repeatedly requested BMRCL to clear the road after completing their work. In this case, they dumped concrete on the service road without leveling it properly. The concrete was left in a large lump in the middle of the road and it didn't have enough time to set. As a result, some car tyres got stuck. We had to bring in help from our own resources to remove the vehicles. We've raised this issue with the officers of BMRCL." —BMB

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# Smoke & mirrors over mosquito issue

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike is proactive with garbage management, the measures are not effective.

"Since the lake is in bad condition, other measures such as fogging are of no use. Hosakerehalli Lake has had stagnant sewage water for months but no measures have been taken to help the residents. We are using every possible product – from herbal cones to chemical-based liquidators – to ward off mosquitoes.

While these measures work to some extent, they are not good for health. Unless the lake revival work is completed, residents will have to put up with the situation," said Rachana Ravi, a resident of Hosakerehalli.

Residents on Jakkur Main Road complained about cases of dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases. They say clogged drains and unattended garbage piles have provided a haven for mosquitoes.

"There are drains in the area with no outlet and thus have stagnant water for months. Jakkur Main Road has a big

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black spot consisting of wet waste.

Wet waste releases water and forms puddles around the garbage spot, providing an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes. We have approached authorities on multiple occasions, including through a protest by children from a nearby school. However, the situation has become worse.

There have been cases of dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases in the area and we are concerned about our health," said Geeta Jacob, a resident of Jakkur.

# Under the cover of crowd, thief makes escape

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and e-mail complaints. Many times these thefts occur on public transport systems, where security measures are lacking.

## Phone gone

Mobile thefts on BMTC buses are not new. BM spoke to a few regular BMTC commuters and it became clear that such incidents are a daily occurrence, often going unreported because many victims believe there's little chance of recovering their stolen phones.

"I was on my usual route to Market via Kengeri when I noticed my phone was missing after getting off the bus during the lunch hour. The bus was crowded, as it usually is, and I decided not to file a report because I didn't think I'd ever get my phone back," shared one daily commuter.

In some particularly alarming instances, thieves approach passengers on the bus, asking to borrow their phone to make a call, only to get off the bus with the phone in hand.

"This was the second time I lost my phone on a bus. A person asked if he could make a quick call, and since the bus wasn't crowded, I handed him my phone. But as soon as the bus reached the stop, he walked off with it and disappeared," a college student told BM.

These thefts frequently occur during peak hours when buses are crowded, making it nearly impossible to identify or track down the thief. While some individuals do register a complaint through the BMTC helpline number or by email, many choose not to report the incident, believing that recovering their stolen mobile is unlikely, according to a BMTC official.

## Public transport risk

Even as cases of mobile thefts rise, it becomes harder for the police to track down the stolen property. "Public transport systems are especially vulnerable to mobile thefts, as the crowded conditions provide an easy escape for thieves.

Tracking them down becomes challenging, particularly because many of these transport services lack comprehensive CCTV surveillance, and even where cameras are present, the coverage is often inadequate," said a police official.

Addl. Commissioner of Police (Crime), Dr. Chandragupta, told BM that the CEIR portal allows people to track their lost mobile phones once they are activated after being stolen. He added that this portal plays a significant role in recovering most of the stolen devices.

Additionally, he added. that some mobile phones are also recovered when the arrested perpetrators, who often belong to small gangs operating across the city, are apprehended.

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**I,** JEEVAN BIKKOD SADASHAV SHETTY S/O BIKKODU NARAYANA SHETTY SADASHIVA SHETTY Residing at 19, Pranavam, 4th Cross, Shivaganga Layout, Mahadevapura, Bengaluru 560048 have changed my name as JEEVAN BIKKODU SADASHIVA SHETTY vide affidavit dated 02/09/2024 sworn before notary J. Anand Kumar Bengaluru

**I,** SAKTHIVEL MUNIRATHINAM, Residing at No. 2-54A, Maharajakadai, Naralapalli, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu - 635120, have changed my name to SAKTHIVEL MUNUSAMY, vide affidavit dated 26/08/2024, sworn before notary Venkataramu H G, Bangalore.

**I** Vaishali D/o Chandrakant Krushna Jadhav R/o No 811, Krishna Villa, 2nd 'A' Main Road, 22nd Cross, Vignan Nagar, New Thippasandra Post, Bangalore - 560075 have changed my name to Vaishali Jadhav for all future purposes.

**CHANGE** OF NAME I, Manjunath.K.M , s/o Halehalli Muniyappa , R/at No. 151, Nisarga Nilaya, Kempegowda Road , Guru Raghavendra Layout, Kithiganur, K.R. puram , Bengaluru- 36 have changed the name of myself from MANJUNATHA .K.M to MANJUNATH. K.M vide affidavit dated 06 / 08 / 2024 sworn to before SADHASHIVAPPA , notary at k r puram

**I** Shajan W/O, Javeed Pasha R/o No 261/2, Plot No 18, 1st Floor, Shivraj Road, Ambedkar Nagar, Near Dj Halli Police Station, Devarajeevanahalli, Arabic College, Bangalore - 560045 have changed my name to Nigar.

**I,** Chitralata N C W/o Raghupathi N R R/o #55 MIG B 19th Block HS249 4th Cross 4th phase Yelahanka New Town B'lore-560064 have changed my name to Chitralatha N C

**I** NAMYA D/o Dharaneesh Revanna R/o No F1 1203 Olety Landmark Apts 2nd Main, 3rd Cross Kurubarahalli Main Road VHBCS Layout B'lore-560079 have changed my name to Namya R D for all purposes.

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**HEALTH TIP:** Starting your day with a glass of warm water mixed with a splash of lemon juice can jumpstart your digestion

Getting enough sleep allows your body to rejuvenate and detoxify naturally

# DON'T HANG UP

## Mobile phones are not linked to brain cancer, according to major review

A systematic review into the potential health effects from radio wave exposure has shown mobile phones are not linked to brain cancer. The review was commissioned by the World Health Organisation and is published in the journal Environment International.

Mobile phones are often held against the head during use. And they emit radio waves, a type of non-ionising radiation. These two factors are largely why the idea mobile phones might cause brain cancer emerged in the first place.

The possibility that mobile phones might cause cancer has been a long-standing concern. Mobile phones – and wireless tech more broadly – are a major part of our daily lives. So it's been vital for science to address the safety of radio wave exposure from these devices.

Over the years, the scientific consensus has remained strong – there's no association between mobile phone radio waves and brain cancer, or health more generally.

### Radiation as a possible carcinogen

Despite the consensus, occasional research studies have been published that suggested the possibility of harm.

In 2011, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classified radio wave exposure as a possible carcinogen to humans. The meaning of this classification was largely misunderstood and led to some increase in concern.

IARC is part of the World Health Organisation. Its classification of radio waves as a possible carcinogen was largely based on limited evidence from human observational studies. Also known as epidemiological studies, they observe the rate of disease and how it may be caused in human populations.

Observational studies are the best tool researchers have to investigate long-term health effects in humans, but the results can often be biased.

The IARC classification relied on previous observational studies where people with brain cancer reported they used a mobile phone more than they actually did. One example of this is known as the INTERPHONE study.

This new systematic review of human observational studies is based on a much larger data set compared to what the IARC examined in 2011.

It includes more recent and more comprehensive studies. This means we can now be more confident that exposure to radio waves from mobile phones or wireless technologies is not associated with an increased risk of brain cancer.

### No association

The new review forms part of a series of systematic reviews commissioned by the World Health Organisation to look more closely at possible health effects associated with exposure to radio waves.

This systematic review provides the strongest evidence to date that radio waves from wireless technologies are not a hazard to human health.

It is the most comprehensive review on this topic – it considered more than 5,000 studies, of which 63, published between 1994 and 2022, were included in the final analysis. The main reason studies were excluded was that they were not actually relevant; this is very normal with search results from systematic reviews.

No association between mobile phone use and brain cancer, or any other head or neck cancer, was found. There was also no association with cancer if a person used a mobile phone for ten or more years (prolonged use). How often they used it – either based on the number of calls or the time spent on the phone – also didn't make a difference.

Importantly, these findings align with previous research. It shows that, although the use of wireless technologies has massively increased in the past few decades, there has been no rise in the incidence of brain cancers.

### A good thing

Overall, the results are very reassuring. They mean that our national and international safety limits are protective. Mobile phones emit low-level radio waves below these safety limits, and there is no evidence exposure to these has an impact on human health.

Despite this, it is important that research continues. Technology is developing at a rapid pace. With this development comes the use of radio waves in different ways using different frequencies. It is therefore essential that science continues to ensure radio wave exposure from these technologies remains safe.

The challenge we now face is making sure this new research counteracts the persistent misconceptions and misinformation out there regarding mobile phones and brain cancer.

There remains no evidence of any established health effects from exposures related to mobile phones, and that is a good thing.

*(By Sarah Loughran, University of Wollongong; and Ken Karipidis, Monash University, The Conversation)*

## MIRRORLIGHTS

### 5 simple ways to maximise nutrition from pulses

By now, with all the chatter around health and nutrition, we know that many Indian staples such as dals or lentils, and legumes like kabuli chana and kaala chana are nutritional powerhouses. With the conversation around plant protein grabbing the spotlight in modern times, Madhuri Ruia – Health Coach and Nutrition Advisor, Adani Wilmar, looks into the wholesome nutrition unpolished pulses provide. "Pulses are known to offer these nutrients in their natural, bioavailable form. In their polished form, these often lose many vital nutrients during processing," she says.

Incorporating pulses into your diet is a smart move in enhancing both your health and overall wellbeing. As part of a balanced lifestyle, pulses contribute to a healthy metabolism in numerous ways. Pairing pulses with grains like rice enhances gut health by cultivating a balanced microbiome. Traditional combinations like dal chawal act as prebiotic foods, nurturing the beneficial bacteria in your gut.

Here are five things Madhuri suggests you should do to maximise the health advantages of including pulses in your diet:

**Pre-soak The Pulses:** Before getting down to cooking, ensure you rinse the pulses under running water and soak them for two to eight hours (depending on the pre-soak time needed) before cooking to improve the absorption of pulse protein.

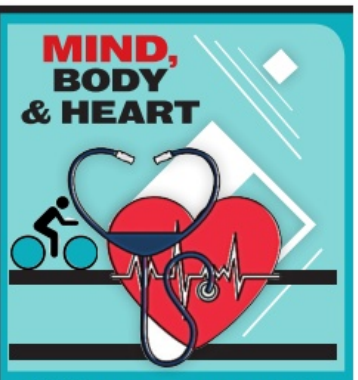
**Pressure-cook Them :** Using the pressure cooker leads to improved digestion and lowers the possibility of gas and bloating.

**Combine Them With Grains Or Nuts:** This step improves the protein quality score of the overall meal. For instance, rajma and rice eaten together, or arhar dal cooked with cashew, provides all the nine essential amino acids required for a healthy metabolism.

**Use Pulse-based Dishes Instead Of Processed Ones**

Packaged breakfast cereals are loaded with refined sugars and unhealthy calories, which lead to increases in body fat and disease risks. You can instead opt for a moong dal chilla with chutney and dahi instead. Chillas are a healthier breakfast option, because they are high in fibre and have a low glycemic index. You can also choose to snack on dry roasted pulses like roasted chana instead of sev and chivda to maximise the health benefits of pulses.

Finally, remember to always choose unpolished pulses to optimise your health, because unpolished pulses retain their nutritional integrity. —Femina




## All you need to know about...

*Heat-based cancer treatment*

**Can help reduce chemo**

Scientists at the Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST) in Mohali, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, have shown that a combination of ultra-small magnetic nanoparticles (MDs) along with a heat-based treatment can help reduce doses of chemotherapy and address its side effects.

**Method**

The team used MDs along with a heat shock protein 90 inhibitor (HSP90i) at suboptimal doses for effective magnetic hyperthermia-based cancer therapy -- combined magnetic hyperthermia and chemotherapy (MHCT).

In rat models, the combination resulted in maximum glioma cell death. Within 8 days, the tumour inhibition rates reached 65 per cent and 53 per cent at the primary and secondary tumour sites, respectively, revealed the study published in the journal ACS Nano.

**Less invasive**

As cancer rates rise worldwide, the need for new treatment methods is crucial, said the team.

The novel method, the team said, is less invasive and causes fewer side effects. It also reduced the required amount of chemotherapy, making the treatment both safer and more effective.

**Role of gene**

The research team investigated the role of HSP90 -- a gene that is upregulated in response to heat stress. By inhibiting HSP90 using the drug 17-DMAG, they aimed to reduce the cells' ability to repair heat-induced damage, leading to enhanced tumour cell death.

"Extensive global research is needed to realise the clinical application of the new therapy, potentially developing an adjuvant or alternative cancer therapy," the team said.

A key advantage of this innovative therapy lies in its potential to stimulate the immune system, enhancing the body's natural defense against cancer.

—IANS

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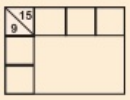
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

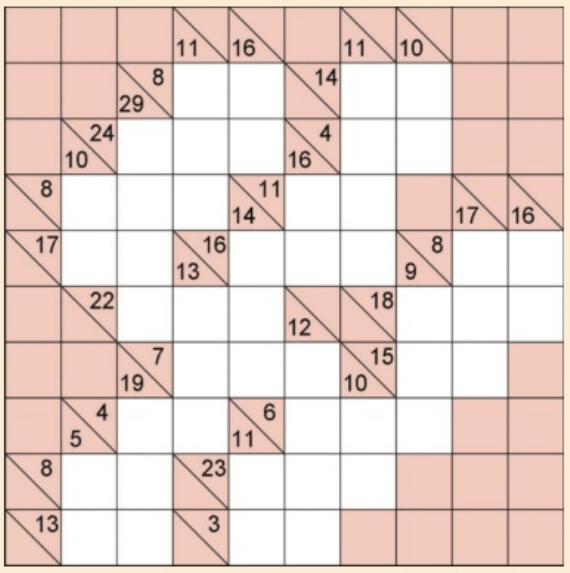

## Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

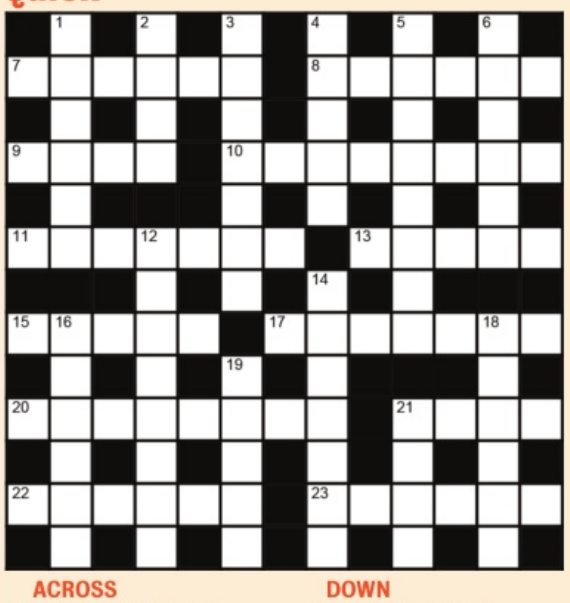


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

7 Government office (6)
8 Chauffeur (6)
9 Indolently (4)
10 Noticed (8)
11 Confers upon (7)
13 Form of optical glass (5)
15 A steamed dosa (5)
17 Least fresh (7)
20 Categorise (8)
21 Tasks (4)
22 Go __ __ : cross all limits, in a way? (3,3)
23 Inclined head (6)

**DOWN**

1 Calm, subjugate or suppress (6)
2 Contradict (4)
3 Disparagement (3-4)
4 Mine entrances (5)
5 Abdominal, deeply felt (8)
6 Takes pleasure in (6)
12 Leaves hurriedly (5,3)
14 Remaining or residing in a place or condition (7)
16 Head-cushion (6)
18 Wept or cried (6)
19 Impetuous; intensely (5)
21 Green gemstone (4)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: V EQUALS S**

JYVEABVV EV ABHBZ VC IBDFWIR DV UIBA, FEGB D KIEK-GBA, EW SYVW QC D KBZWDEA DSCYAW CT VKZDWKIEAM DZCYAQ TCZ UIDW EW MBWV.

## Linemaro

Our smiles should touch now

## Mindchow

Be a good person, but don't waste time trying to prove it

## Joke of the day

You've got to hand it to the short people – because they can't reach

## Loop

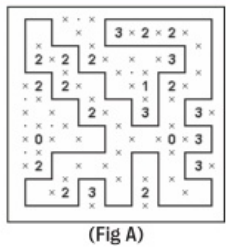
**Rules**

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

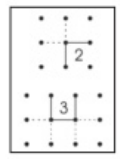
**How to begin:**

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

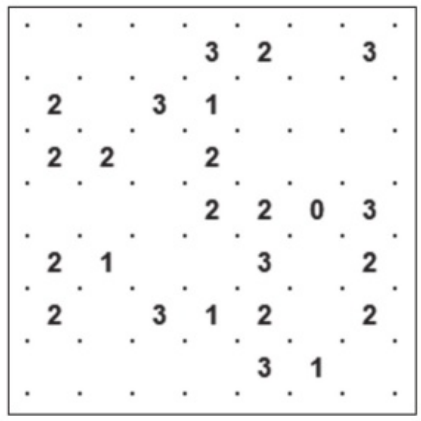
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



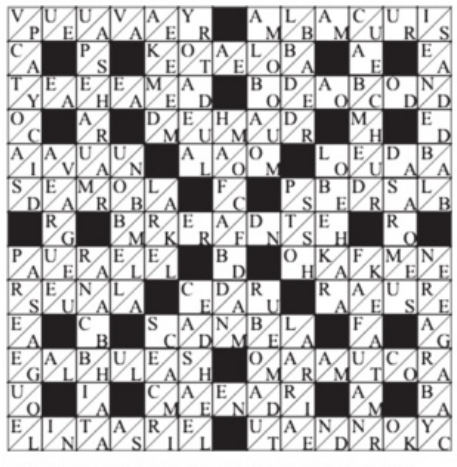
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



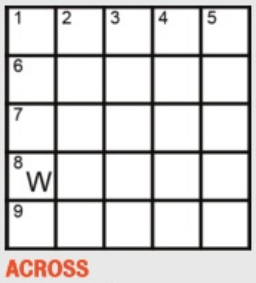
## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...




**ACROSS**

1 A boss; 6 Laxer;
7 Uli Co; 8 Weird;
9 Pep an

**DOWN**

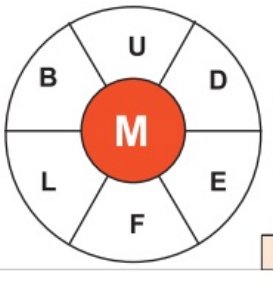
1 Worn B; 2 Ace I a;
3 Purls; 4 Leaps;
5 Ox die

## Mensapuzzle

Below is an alphametic that pays tribute to basketball greats. Each letter stands for a positive number. If A=4, C=8, R=0 and G=2, fill in the remaining numbers.

```
  BIRD
+ MAGIC
-------
 GREAT
```

## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

**05** Average; **06** Good; **08** Outstanding

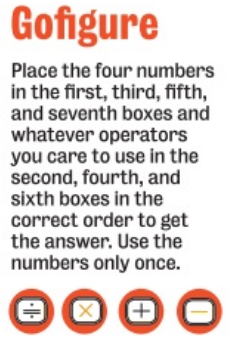
## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 8 | | 7 | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | | 7 | |
| 1 | 6 | | 2 | | 3 | | 9 | 5 |
| | 9 | 2 | | 7 | | 5 | 1 | |
| 3 | | | | | | | | 9 |
| | 5 | 8 | | 9 | | 3 | 4 | |
| 5 | 3 | | 7 | | 1 | | 6 | 2 |
| | 1 | | | | | | 8 | |
| | | | 6 | | 9 | | | |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.




## Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

**Differences:** 1. Hatbox is larger. 2. Man has more hair. 3. Plant is larger. 4. Ribbon on box is moved. 5. Flower is missing from hat. 6. Man's collar is not showing.

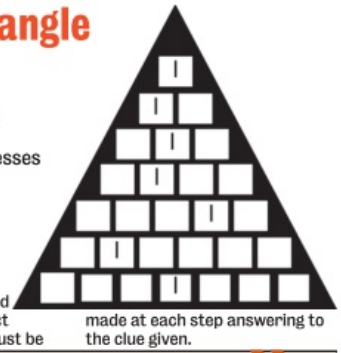
## Riddler

Each pair of definitions is for two words, where the second word is the first word with an extra letter added somewhere (example: band & brand). The length of the short word in each pair is provided.

1) a female relative & to challenge with insulting remarks (4 letters)
2) A nook & a person who investigates the causes of deaths (6 letters)
3) a rustic & a game bird (7 letters) 4) nimble or sprightly & a jet of fine vapour (4 letters)

## Alpha triangle

1 Egoistic letter
2 Less more
3 Knight's title
4 Affected manner
5 Part of a flight
6 Jewelled headdresses
7 Lassos

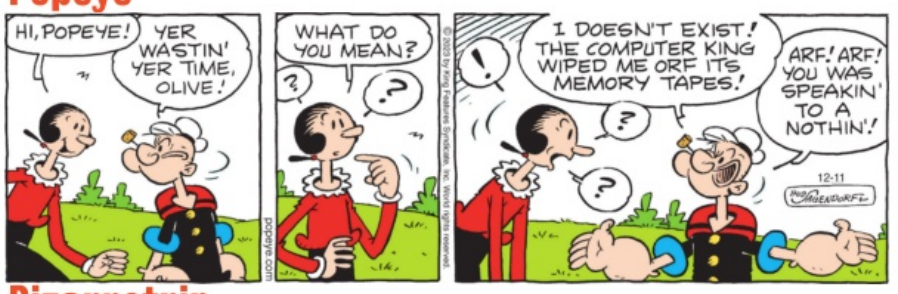


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.


DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

# COMICS

## Popeye


HI, POPEYE!
YER WASTIN' YER TIME, OLIVE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I DOESN'T EXIST! THE COMPUTER KING WIPED ME ORF ITS MEMORY TAPES!
ARF! ARF! YOU WAS SPEAKIN' TO A NOTHIN'!
12-11
popeye.com

## Bizarrotrip

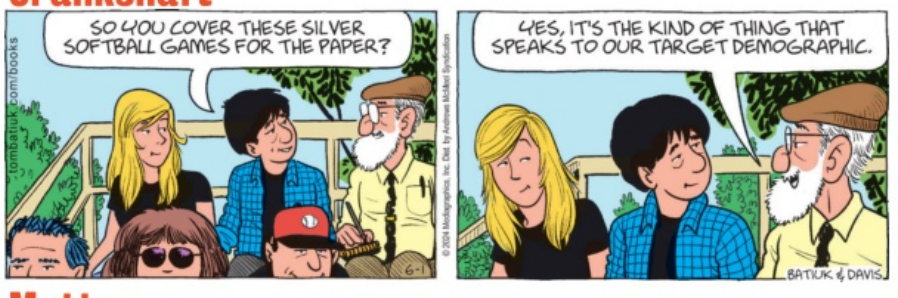
My date said I look like a hipster magician or a silent movie villain.
No way! You look like a Victorian undertaker.
SIX ENCOURAGING WORDS TOO MANY
BIZARRO.COM
Dist. by King Features

## Diamond Lil

## Hart of the city

TIME TO SET UP FOR ANIME CLUB!
LET'S WATCH "JUJUTSU KAISEN." I'VE GOT THE FIRST THREE EPISODES HERE.
WE ALREADY HAVE A WATCH SCHEDULE.
WATCH LIST
WHEN I'M ANIME CLUB PRESIDENT, THAT'LL ALL CHANGE.
OKAY, TREVOR.
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

## Crankshaft


SO YOU COVER THESE SILVER SOFTBALL GAMES FOR THE PAPER?
YES, IT'S THE KIND OF THING THAT SPEAKS TO OUR TARGET DEMOGRAPHIC.
tomBatiuk.com/books
BATIUK & DAVIS

## Mutts

# WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

**Aries** Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel dull due to lack of sleep. You may also be negative, which may reflect into your way of working; it is advised to postpone making investments in your work. You may be a victim of conspiracy, so you are advised to keep an eye on your opponent and rivals. Lovebirds are advised to keep patience to avoid unnecessary arguments.

**Taurus** Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may be blessed by the moon. You may get some big orders with the help of overseas contacts. You may also face some moments when you may feel anxiety, but somehow you may be able to control it. Students may be likely to study the subject in depth. Investors are advised to make long-term investments to get fruitful gains.

**Gemini** May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may be busy at work. You may face some difficulties in completing the task; it may make you upset, but somehow, with blessings from elders and guides, you may come out of this messy situation. Due to your workload, you may feel mentally tired; you may not be able to give time to your family. But your siblings may be likely to support you to maintain domestic harmony.

**Cancer** Jun 22 – July 23
Today, things are under control; the last few days crunch may be over now. You may feel calm and cool. Your focus on your goals may be good. You may enjoy your work. Disputes in partnerships may be settled now. Litigation in property-related matters may likely be resolved. You may also have some romantic moments with your loved ones.

**Leo** Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today is not a good day for you. You may be a victim of negative thoughts. You may be impatient. Your arrogance may push you back from taking difficult decisions. Your life seems to be stopping somewhere; you may be in need of the blessings of your elders, which may likely help you to come back from the messy situations. You should avoid making investments in dead assets. Lovebirds shall avoid discussing worthless topics.

**Virgo** Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon; you are likely to hear some good news in terms of work and business. You may also take important decisions in making investments in assets. You may likely enjoy your domestic life. You are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics. Overexcitement may test your patience. Students are advised to be focused in their studies.

**Libra** Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today is a good day; you may perform well in terms of work. Your boss may give you some more responsibility in terms of promotions. Your rivals and opponents are now under control. You may lend money for making your assets. You may likely plan to make some investments for your kids' future.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel dull; it may make you lazy and careless. You are likely to be unfocused at work, and this impatience may pull you down negatively. Kids and spouse health may also make you upset. You are advised to avoid making investments in assets. Lovebirds should avoid making arguments in family matters.

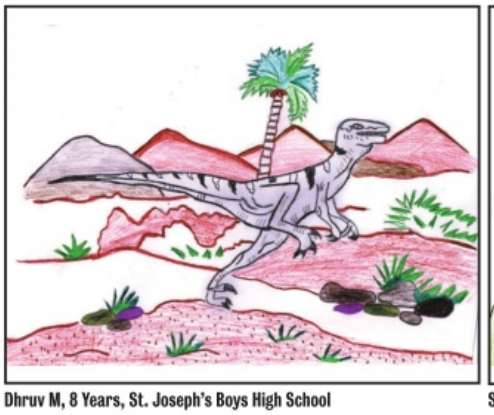
**Sagittarius** Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may find negative vibrations around you, which may make you unhappy. You are advised to avoid making investments in worthless assets. Your friends are not likely to be supportive today, so you should not expect more from them in terms of help; otherwise, it may make you more upset. You are advised to follow your intuition before taking important decisions.

**Capricorn** Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may be able to implement business plans successfully with the support of your subordinates. . You may also be involved in some social or family get-together, which may boost your network. You may likely go for short business-related travels, which may give you benefits in the near future.

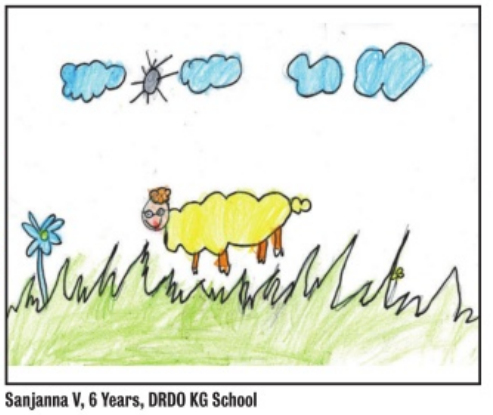
**Aquarius** Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is a good day; your financial health is likely to be good. You may get benefits from your past investments. You may have control over your spending on worthless stuff, which may boost your savings. Lovebirds are advised to be polite in the conversation with their partner; otherwise, there may be some conflicts between them.

**Pisces** Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may be busy with issues related to your siblings and relatives. You may also plan to start some new venture with the help of your siblings and network. You may likely get an order, which may increase your family business. There may be some smart gains after a little effort. Your network may also help you to complete your task successfully.

# KIDZONE



Dhruv M, 8 Years, St. Joseph's Boys High School



Sanjanna V, 6 Years, DRDO KG School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

# SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**
45-[38-[20-3/3]]=
45-[38-[20-1]]=
45-[38-[19]]=
45-[19]=
26

**BULL'S EYE**
dumb, flume, FUMBLED, fume, fumed, meld, mule

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | S | S | O |
| R | E | L | A | X |
| O | C | U | L | I |
| W | I | R | E | D |
| N | A | P | P | E |

**RIDDLER**
1) aunt & taunt,
2) corner & coroner,
3) peasant & pheasant,
4) spry & spray

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | E | A | V | E | Y | A | B | A | C | U | S | | | |
| A | S | | K | O | A | L | A | | A | | A | | | |
| T | E | H | E | E | D | B | E | A | C | O | N | | | |
| O | R | | D | E | M | U | R | | D | | | | | |
| I | V | A | N | | L | A | M | | L | E | D | A | | |
| S | A | M | O | A | | C | | P | E | D | A | L | | |
| P | U | R | E | E | | D | | O | A | K | E | N | | |
| R | E | A | L | | E | A | U | | R | A | S | E | | |
| A | P | P | A | M | | S | T | A | L | E | S | T | | |
| B | E | S | T | O | W | S | | P | R | I | S | M | | |
| I | D | L | Y | | D | E | T | E | C | T | E | D | | |
| B | U | R | E | A | U | | O | R | I | V | E | R | | |
| T | O | O | F | A | R | | N | O | D | D | E | D | | |
| L | O | | E | | I | | A | | B | | | | | |
| C | L | A | S | S | I | F | Y | | J | O | B | S | | |
| A | P | P | A | M | | S | T | A | L | E | S | T | | |
| | I | | R | | F | | A | | | O | | | | |
| B | E | S | T | O | W | S | | P | R | I | S | M | | |
| | | | E | | N | | S | | A | | | | | |
| | | | U | | O | | S | | E | | L | | | |
| | | | B | | N | | T | | I | | S | V | | |
| | | | S | D | P | A | V | R | I | V | E | R | | |
| | | | W | F | Y | | G | | E | D | | | | |

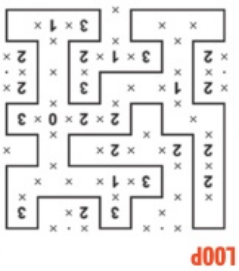
**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | N | T | A | I | L | | T | A | N | N | O | Y | | |
| G | A | B | B | L | E | S | | O | R | A | T | O | R | |
| A | | B | | S | A | M | B | A | | | | A | | |
| R | E | A | L | | E | A | U | | R | A | S | E | | |
| P | U | R | E | E | | D | | O | A | K | E | N | | |
| | G | | B | R | E | A | D | T | H | | R | | | |
| S | A | M | O | A | | C | | P | E | D | A | L | | |
| I | V | A | N | | L | A | M | | L | E | D | A | | |
| O | R | | D | E | M | U | R | | D | | | | | |
| T | E | H | E | E | D | B | E | A | C | O | N | | | |
| U | | I | | M | E | N | A | I | | A | | B | | |
| A | S | | K | O | A | L | A | | A | | A | | | |

**KAKURO**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 11 | 16 | | 11 | 10 | | | | | |
| | | | | 8 | 1 | 7 | 23 | 9 | 6 | 8 | | | | |
| | | | 29 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 16 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 8 | | | |
| | | 10 | 24 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | |
| | | 8 | 1 | 7 | 14 | 5 | 9 | | | | | | | |
| | 17 | 16 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 17 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 7 |
| | 16 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| | | | | 13 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 23 | 9 | 6 | 8 | | |
| | | | 13 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 4 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**LOOP**



**ALPHA TRIANGLE**
I, Is, Sir, Airs, Stair, Tiaras, Lariats.

**GO FIGURE**
Easy
Medium
6 + 5 − 9 + 4 = 6
3 + 3 + 5 + 1 = 12
Hard
9 + 3 − 7 x 1 = 5

**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 1 |
| 7 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 3 |
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| 6 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 9 |
| 4 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| 1 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| 8 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 6 |
| 9 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 4 |

**MENSA PUZZLE**
6309
14238 +
20457

**QUOTE UNCODE**
Business is never so healthy as when, like a chicken, it must do a certain amount of scratching around for what it gets.

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**Need committee for Sandalwood**

The Film Industry for Rights and Equality (FIRE) on Wednesday asked the Karnataka government to constitute a panel to study and report on sexual harassment in the Kannada film industry

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

## Ventriloquist is muse

Director Rajesh Murthy gears up to release his latest movie Dinku, a movie about a talking doll. Murthy, the son of producer-cum-director HMK Murthy, has already helmed nine Kannada movies before this.

"My son Yashswa wrote the script after graduating from Jain University. He is inspired by ventriloquists from Bangalore and Kolkata. Dinku is an experimental movie. Not many Kannada movies were made based on the lives of ventriloquists. I am very happy with the script. I completed the shoot of the movie in 25 days in and around Bengaluru. As of now, post-production works are in progress," said Murthy.

He said the story revolves around a girl who performs puppet shows. "The movie is about what happens if a ventriloquist considers the puppet as part of his/her life," he said.

Nela Mahesh and Nevi Manju are bankrolling the film.

## Pack of cards

Rummy Aata, a new film set to arrive in theaters shortly, aims to create awareness among the public on the ill-effects of on-line Rummy. The movie will show how people who start of playing online Rummy as a hobby later become addicts and lose money and end up in financial problems.

The trailer of Rummy Aata was released by Kannada Film Producers' Association president Umesh Banakar. Banakar said that director Umar Sharif directed this movie to tell the public not to become victims of online Rummy.

According to director Umar Sharif, some movie actors are promoting online Rummy and it makes gullible persons, especially the actor's fans, vulnerable to addiction to online gambling. "Kannada matinee idol Dr Rajkumar never appeared on the screen smoking cigarettes or beedis. Dr Rajkumar's fans used to quit smoking. We are conveying a good message through the dialogues in the movie Rummy Aata," said director Umar Sharif.

The movie stars Raghava Surya, Syed Irfan, Vinya Shetty, Shneha Rao, Abhi Gowda, Srikar, Roshan Srinivas, Pavana Lingaiah, Girish, and Mohan. The movie has received a U certificate.

# TRULY FASHIONABLE

## Alia explains how her sense of fashion has evolved

Be it her performance on screen or her style, Alia Bhatt has always managed to sweep everyone by their feet. For the star, fashion is another form of storytelling and said that she has always tried to keep it as true as it can be.

Talking to IANS about how she would define her fashion and how has it evolved, Alia told IANS: "Fashion is another form of storytelling for me, a reflection of one's self. I have always tried to keep as true as I can to me - ever-evolving but forever comfortable and easy."

Asked about how she takes care of her hair and skin, Alia gave pointers on her routine.

"I stick to a consistent skincare routine that includes cleansing, moisturizing, and protecting my skin from the sun. Staying hydrated is also a key part of my regimen. When I'm not working, I like to go make-up-free to let my skin breathe, and I give my hair a break from styling tools and products to keep it healthy," said the actress, who will next be seen in "Jigra".

She added: "It's really a mix of a balanced diet, workout, my skin and hair care routine, good sleep but most importantly – just listening to my body."

Experimenting with hair is a big part for Alia.

"For me, experimenting with my hair is a big part of embracing different roles and looks. It's fascinating how something as simple as a new hair colour or hairdo can shift your whole appearance and bring a different energy to your performance," said Alia, who has been onboarded as the global brand ambassador for L'Oréal Paris.

"Whether it's for a project or just for a change, experimenting with my hair keeps things fun," said Alia, who mentioned being "passionate about skincare".

—IANS

> "Fashion is another form of storytelling for me, a reflection of one's self

# HOT PROPERTY

Aryan Khan, the eldest son of Shah Rukh Khan, has been in the spotlight regarding his acting debut. There has been a significant buzz and numerous offers from filmmakers eager to launch him.

Now, as per the latest report by Pinkvlla, Shah Rukh Khan is flooded with proposals from filmmakers all across the board to launch his son, Aryan Khan.

The report stated that several top producers and directors have approached Shah Rukh Khan to launch Aryan Khan in a grand way on the big screen. The report further mentioned that those who have met Aryan believe he has the personality and aura to become the star the industry is waiting for. Over the past year, Shah Rukh Khan and Aryan have received film offers from Karan Johar, Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra, and other filmmaker friends such as Aditya Chopra and Farah Khan.

The report also revealed that directors from the South have also approached Shah Rukh Khan with projects to launch Aryan Khan with significant fanfare.

However, Aryan is currently focused on completing his directorial debut, 'Stardom', for a leading digital platform. Once this project is finished, he plans to discuss with his father, Shah Rukh Khan, whether acting might be his true calling. For now, Aryan is content with his creative role and is committed to pursuing a career in direction, although many in the industry are hopeful he might eventually shift to acting.

Aryan's next is an upcoming directorial web series which is reportedly titled 'Stardom'. The series will premiere next year. On the other hand, Shah Rukh Khan is gearing up to start his next film 'King', co-starring actor daughter Suhana Khan.

— ETimes

# First look

Luca Guadagnino's highly anticipated adaptation of William S Burroughs' novel 'Queer' has made its debut at the Venice Film Festival, offering a first glimpse of Daniel Craig in the pivotal role.

The film, which premiered on Monday evening, showcases Craig in the role of William Lee, an American expatriate in his late forties navigating a solitary existence in 1950s Mexico City, according to Deadline.

In 'Queer', Lee's life takes a significant turn with the arrival of Eugene Allerton, portrayed by Drew Starkey, a young student who brings a new dynamic to Lee's otherwise isolated world.

The narrative explores Lee's journey towards forging a meaningful connection, a shift that disrupts his previously self-contained life, as per Deadline.

Filmed at the renowned Cinecitta studio in Rome, 'Queer' also features performances by Lesley Manville, Jason Schwartzman, Andra Ursuta, Michael Borremans, and David Lowery.

As per Deadline, the screenplay, crafted by Justin Kuritzkes, who previously worked with Guadagnino on 'Challengers', contributes to the film's rich narrative texture.

—ANI